

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State school districts that admirably help students obtain the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to become lifelong learners, involved citizens, and future societal leaders; and

Whereas, the Saint Louis City School District sponsored a Million Minutes by March reading initiative in which students, from pre-kindergarten through high school seniors, were encouraged to read outside of class for twenty minutes each day; and

Whereas, with a goal of one million cumulative minutes spent reading from January through March 2008, the Million Minutes by March program logged 3,971,898 minutes on March 12, 2008--nearly four times the amount originally targeted; and

Whereas, the Million Minutes by March initiative also depended upon the participation of parents, grandparents, and other community members who either read to children or listened to children read as a way to encourage strong, lifelong reading habits and to view reading as a rewarding leisure activity; and

Whereas, the Million Minutes by March program included such special days as January 4 and January 11, 2008, when elected officials were scheduled to read at schools; February 14, 2008, which was known as "parent/grandparent reading day"; and February 29, 2008, which welcomed members of the clergy for a "faith-based reading day"; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the Missouri House of Representatives should pause in its diverse legislative actions in order to recognize the success of the Million Minutes by March effort as Saint Louis public schools hold a series of local celebrations from April 7 through April 11, 2008:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the resounding success of the Million Minutes by March reading initiative sponsored by Saint Louis public schools and to convey to all of those involved, especially administrators, faculty, students, and parents, this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued personal and academic success in life for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Saint Louis City School District.

Offered by Representative Jeanette Mott Oxford, District No. 59; Representative Mike Daus, District No. 67; Representative Talibdin El-Amin, District No. 57; Representative Rodney R. Hubbard, District No. 58; Representative Connie L. Johnson, District No. 61; Representative Michele Kratky, District No. 65; Representative Jamilah Nasheed, District No. 60; Representative Rachel Storch, District No. 64; Representative Michael Vogt, District No. 66; Representative Robin Wright Jones, District No. 63

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. ____, adopted ____, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker